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BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
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HERALD.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

ROOF TOPS THEATRE, 23d St. and 6th Ave.—
Matinee at 2—Wild Oats. Evening—Othello.NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—The Ruyter's
Extravaganza of The Forty Thieves. Evening at 7.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Fifth Avenue and Twenty-
fourth street.—The Hunchback of Notre Dame at 7.WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 12th street.—
Caste. Matinee at 2.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, 14th street.—Italian Opera—
Lucerne.GERMAN STADT THEATRE, Nos. 45 and 47 Bowery—
Ruyter's Imperial Japanese Troop.OLYMPIA THEATRE, Broadway—Bicounty Dime
Show. Matinee at 1 1/2.DOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—Jack Sheppard—
Watchman and His Dog—Spectacular Ride.WAVELEY THEATRE, 220 Broadway—Promotion—
The Two Poles. Matinee at 2.WOOD'S MUSEUM AND THEATRE, Thirtieth street and
Broadway—Afternoon and evening Performances.THE TAMMANY, Fourteenth street.—Robinson Crusoe
and His Man Friday, &c.MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn—
Dorothy and Son—Foghorn.THEATRE COMIQUE, 5th Avenue.—Comic Sketches
and Living Statues—Pierrot. Matinee at 2 1/2.CENTRAL PARK GARDEN, 7th Ave., between 58th and
59th St.—Popular Garden Concert.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 355 Broadway—Ethio-
pian Entertainments—The Unlabeled Blondes.BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Tammany Building, 14th
street.—Ethiopian Minstrelsy, &c.TONTI PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Broadway—Comic
Toucan, Negro Minstrelsy, &c. Matinee at 2 1/2.EMPIRE CITY RINK, corner 3d and 4th streets—
Grand Concert, &c.HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn—Hoovert's
Minstrelsy—Comic Opera.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 85 Broadway—
Science and Art.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Saturday, May 22, 1869.

THE NEWS.

Europe.

The cable telegrams are dated May 21.
The *Independence*, *Belge*, Belgium, yesterday
evening contained the announcement that Minister
Sandford had forwarded his resignation to Wash-
ington.The Rev. Alexander Dye, the Shakspearian com-
mentator, died yesterday in London. Reverdy
Johnson will leave Southampton to-day for the
United States. The new duplicate telegraph from
London to Valencia, Ireland, was completed yester-
day. Sir Francis Head, formerly Governor General
of Canada, writes to the *London Times* about the
injustice of America claiming damages for the Ala-
bama claims, and maintains that England has
damages for apology and damages against the
United States.Last week there was a heavy flow of specie into
the Bank of France. A change of his present
Cabinet by the Emperor is looked for.The debate on the future form of government for
Spain in the Cortes yesterday amounted to nothing.
There was much talking and no action. Admiral
Toupe favors the Duke of Montpensier for the
throne. Articles thirty-two and thirty-three of the
constitution were passed yesterday by the Cortes.

Cuba.

A proclamation which the Spaniards claim was
issued by Céspedes before Valmaseda's infamous
order has been published. It provides for the ex-
ecution of all Spanish volunteers captured, and the
confiscation of the property of all enemies of the
republic. No neutrality is recognized, and foreigners
who have voluntarily aided the Spaniards will be ex-
ecuted. The English prisoners captured on the
wrecking schooner by the Spaniards have been re-
leased. The property of nineteen Cuban ladies had
been confiscated.

Miscellaneous.

The Navy Department has issued an order direct-
ing that the names of seventeen vessels, hitherto
called by rather unpronounceable Indian titles, be
changed to the names of towns and States. The
Contoocook, Admiral Hood's flagship, is to be called
the Albany, and the Piscataqua, a comparatively new
vessel that relieved the Hartford as flagship of our
Chinese squadron a year or so ago, is to be designat-
ed as the Delaware. The Omaha is changed to As-
toria and the Ontario to New York.President Grant received Major General Clarke, of
Texas, yesterday, and had a long conversation, in
which the latter gentleman urged that the Texas
election should take place in August, when the peo-
ple would not be busied gathering their crops, and
would have time to attend the polls. The outrages
were greatly exaggerated. The President finally
said he would have the State restored with as little
delay as possible.The President yesterday issued the expected pro-
clamation more clearly defining the intentions of
the Eight Hour law. He directs that after this date
no reduction of wages shall be made in government
workshops on account of the required reduction of
hours of labor.A bill introduced by Secretary Seward in tele-
graphing over the cable to Reverdy Johnson has
been presented to Secretary Fish by the agent of the
Telegraph Company for New York. It consists of a
single item and amounts to \$40,000. Mr. Seward, it
seems, was allowed cheap rates on his messages, and
so became rather verbose. When this bill came
in he refused to pay it. It therefore fell to the suc-
ceeding administration. Secretary Fish declined to
pay it, and when it was presented to President Grant
he sent it to Attorney General Hoar for an opinion,
which he is now engaged on.Indian Commissioner Parker has issued an order
assigning a large force of army officers to duty as
Indian superintendents and agents.A colored police magistrate has been appointed in
Washington. Two colored clerks have been designat-
ed for appointment in the Revenue Bureau. One
of them is president of a republican club in Wash-
ington, and the other is the brother of an alderman
of the city. Fred Douglass, Jr. (colored), has been
appointed a clerk in the office of the Register of
Deeds in the District of Columbia. He wrote a let-
ter to the Register applying for the position and stat-
ing that he was a printer, but could not work at his
trade on account of the trade combination against his
color.Rheuzer D. Bassett, our colored Minister to
Hayti, waited upon the Assistant Secretary of State
yesterday and received his instructions, previous to
his departure for the field of his diplomacy. The in-
structions relate merely to securing the payment of a
claim for \$30,000, due for the repair of a Haytian
war vessel.Attorney General Hoar is very unpopular among
the politicians and Congressmen in Washington, and
it is said that efforts will be made to have him
dismissed from the Cabinet. The Massachusetts dele-
gation are especially bitter against him.

The City.

In the Presbyterian General Assemblies yesterday
a conference Committee on Reunion was appointed.
A basis of union adopted by a committee of the last
General Assembly of the Old School was presented, but
was not acted upon.In the trial of George B. Davis, in the United States
Circuit Court, for perjury, yesterday an application
to permit the prisoner to testify in his own behalf
was refused by the Court. The jury, at the conclu-
sion, returned a verdict of guilty and the prisoner
was remanded for sentence.

Comptroller Connolly yesterday appointed the new

Board of Tax Commissioners, consisting of T. J.
Creamer, W. H. King, G. H. Andrews and Nathaniel
Sands.The Peasall and O'Connor contempt case came
up before Judge Cardozo yesterday and was par-
tially proceeded with. Judge Cardozo offered to
admit the prisoners to bail, but they declined to
accept bail and the case was thereupon adjourned
to Tuesday.In the gross receipts of the places of amusement
during the month of April, Booth's makes the high-
est return, \$14,000; Niblo's next, \$35,000, and Wal-
lack's next, \$38,000.Mr. Theodore Allen was again in court yesterday
before Justice Ledwith on a charge of rescuing a
prisoner from a detective named Townley. The
charge was preferred in March last, but this was the
first time that the prisoner could be produced. Al-
len's friends thronged the room, and one, an alder-
man, seated himself within whispering distance of
the Justice. Under the circumstances the Court post-
poned the case for a week, and Allen gave bail and
withdrew.In the case of Connors, the Broadway policeman
charged with assault and battery, the jury yesterday
returned a verdict of guilty. Connors not having
appeared his counsel stated that he did not know
where he was, and Judge Bedford ordered his bail to
be forfeited and a bench warrant to be issued for
his arrest.W. H. Livingston, a clerk at Stewart's, and a man
of family, whom Judge Bedford and the District
Attorney commended as having been of the highest
respectability and most unblemished honesty hereto-
fore, pleaded guilty to embezzling \$4,500 from his
employers and was sentenced to four years in the
Penitentiary.The stock market yesterday opened with great
animation, New York Central advancing to 12 1/2.
Under sales to realize the whole market fell from
one to three per cent, but recovered a portion of the
decline and closed steady. Gold fell to 140 1/2, but re-
acted to 141 1/2 at the close.

Prominent Arrivals in the City.

Ex-Governor W. Dennison, ex-Congressman S.
Sheilabarger and B. E. Smith, of Ohio; ex-Congress-
man J. S. Marshall, of Illinois; Judge W. T. Strain;
of Cincinnati; Henry Keyes, of Vermont; C. A.
Miller, of Alabama; J. P. Folsom, W. H. Anderson
and C. H. Latham, of Lowell, Mass., are at the St.
Nicholas Hotel.Major Frank Taylor, of the United States Army,
and Colonel Daniel Gardner, of Philadelphia, are at
the St. Charles Hotel.A. S. Merriman, of Washington; G. J. Atwood,
of New Jersey; W. Boyce, of Canada; A. Tingle,
of New York; J. S. Marshall, of Illinois; Judge W. T. Strain;
of Cincinnati; Henry Keyes, of Vermont; C. A.
Miller, of Alabama; J. P. Folsom, W. H. Anderson
and C. H. Latham, of Lowell, Mass., are at the St.
Nicholas Hotel.Professor Thorpe, of St. Louis; Captain Samuel G.
Nevis, of Baltimore, and E. R. Donaldson, of Que-
bec, are at the St. Julien Hotel.Ex-President Franklin Pierce, of New Hampshire;
John G. Saxe, of Albany; General George W. Buck,
of Chemung; D. Lyman, of Middletown; J. P. Voor-
hees, and J. Tucker, of Philadelphia, and Benjamin
Douglas, of Connecticut, are at the Astor House.

Prominent Departures.

Senator Zach Chandler, of Michigan; Senator
T. W. Osborn, of Florida, and his brother, Rev. Dr.
A. C. Osborn, of St. Louis, sail to-day in the City
of Brooklyn for Europe.Dr. J. R. Groesbeck, Major Davis, United States
Army; Colonel M. O'Brien, Professor A. Hall, and J.
Rogers, United States Navy, sailed yesterday in the
steamship Henry Chauncey for Aspinwall.H. J. Winsor, United States Consul at Sonneberg,
Saxony, sailed yesterday in the steamship Bavaria
for Hamburg.Our Relations with Great Britain—Mr.
Goldwin Smith on the Situation.What a fuss the Senate of the United States,
connected as the action of that august body has
been with the speech of Senator Sumner, has created
in Great Britain! Our special cable despatches, our
special correspondence and the extracts which from day to day we
have made from the more prominent British jour-
nals prove how deep and how general is the ex-
citement which has been produced on the other
side of the Atlantic. Weeks have now passed since
a great American statesman, a man of culture, dig-
nity and large experience, and but little in the habit
of humoring the mob, honestly expressed his thoughts
on the Alabama treaty, and by the fair, clear and ex-
haustive statement of the case convinced the Ameri-
can people that there still lived among them men to
whom their destinies might safely be entrusted. The
rejection of the Clarendon-Johnson treaty was with a
foregone conclusion. The action of the Senate and
the speech of Sumner while they pleased did not
surprise us. Our minds were already made up. The
action of the Senate justified our conviction, and the
speech of Mr. Sumner gave fair and full expression to
the national sentiment. The result was that we were
satisfied, but not at all demonstrative.It has been altogether different with our so-
called cousins on the other side. Their relations
with America, the ridiculous manner in which we
have treated Minister Johnson, the outrageous de-
mands of Sumner, the probable results of war with
the great republic of the West—these and kindred
subjects have made British journalists wholly forgetful
of all domestic questions. Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright,
Mr. Disraeli, Irish Church reform, House of
Lords reform and all other names and reforms have
temporarily given place to the new and unlooked-
for phase of the unsettled question between John Bull
and Brother Jonathan. Hitherto the sentiments engendered by Sum-
ner's speech have been expressed only by the jour-
nalists. Some of the journals have been furious and
bellicose in the extreme. Some of them have made
admissions to the effect that John Bull was partially
in the wrong, that so far as he was wrongdoing he
should confess his fault, but that he must not, on
any account, submit to coercion or insult. Others,
again, are timid, full of fear and evidently at their
wit's end. All this fuss and fary contrasts strangely
with the composure and comparative indifference of
the American people. We know how the case stands.
We are satisfied that it has now been fairly and
fully stated. We know who we are and what we
can do, if need be, and we are totally regardless
of consequences.In this connection it is impossible to over-
look the fact that a mighty change has passed
over the British mind during the last few years
in regard to the United States. It is not many
years since it was the habitual custom of British
authors who happened to visit this country to accept
our hospitality, to worm themselves into our confi-
dence, to study our institutions, and all for no
higher or more noble purpose than, first of all,
to fill their purses, and secondly, on their return
home, to make their countrymen laugh at the
oddities and eccentricities which, in exaggerated
language, they unjustly and ungratefully ascribed
to us. There have been many such offenders. The
greatest of them all has a second time revisited
these shores, and has a second time been gener-
ously treated, and has had the honesty and the man-
liness to confess and ask forgiveness for his former
offense. Our late civil war has worked wonders on ourselves and on mankind generally. We feel
ourselves to be a mighty and a compact people.
Our onward movements have become more em-
phatic and more irresistible. Our rapid and gi-
gantic strides, in the shape of internal develop-
ment and territorial expansion, are startling the
world and everywhere extorting the confession
that the great controlling force of the future is
revealing itself on the Western Continent. We are
guilty of no exaggeration when we say that the
United States of America are inspiring hope into
all peoples and imparting encouragement to all
nationalities. It is not, therefore, a matter of
surprise to us that we have ceased to be an ob-
ject of ridicule and even fear. It is, however, a
matter of some surprise to us that in these altered
circumstances an Englishman who has acquired some
reputation among a class of his own countrymen,
and who now, for reasons best known to himself,
is a resident in this country and the recipient
of American bounty, should abuse the position to
which he has been generously appointed by under-
taking the defence of England against the charges
of Senator Sumner, and by inculcating sentiments
which he knows to be utterly anti-American in
their tone and tendency. Who is Mr. Goldwin
Smith, that he should teach us in this matter and
lecture us in this fashion? That this gentleman
has talents we very willingly admit; but his
sentiments, which never found themselves in very
general favor at home, are, we fear, very little
likely ever to find themselves in favor here. If
we understand the object of the founder and di-
rectors of the Cornell University, Mr. Goldwin
Smith was brought to this country for national,
not for anti-national purposes; not because he was
out of sympathy with our republican institutions,
but because he was believed to be in sympathy with
them; not for the purpose of infusing into the
minds of our citizens and the rising hopes of the
country poisonous sentiments, but that he might
correctly read and fairly state from a high, im-
partial but republican standpoint the great lessons
of history. Certainly he was not brought here for
the purpose of advocating the cause of a govern-
ment and people at whose hands the citizens of the
United States believe they have sustained serious
and irreparable wrong. We care nothing for this
gentleman's warnings; and he ought to know that
we need not his advice. We are a young people, it
is true; but we are old and wise enough to direct
our own steps, and we are strong enough, if need
be, to defend our own interests. Mr. Goldwin
Smith, we say, has abused his position. If he is
not pleased with what he sees around him he
knows what to do. If he likes us not he can
leave us. And we humbly submit that those
who have the control of the Cornell University
would not offend the good sense of the American
people if forthwith they politely dispensed with
the services of this rather im-
pertinent English professor.It will not surprise us if Mr. Smith's un-
necessary interference in this matter should
bring down upon his head the wrath of his
own countrymen. He may find the British
government and people as indignant as he has
found us ungrateful. This, however, is his
own affair. If he has sinned he must suffer.
It is for the British government and people to
know that our minds are made up, and that
nothing that can be said by impertinent profes-
sors, by a furious press or by haughty and
indignant statesmen, can have the slightest
effect in changing our opinion or overcoming
our fixed resolution. We have said what we
mean, and we mean to abide by what we have
said. We can well afford to wait—to wait with
calmness and with dignity. If our claims
are not met our hour of indemnity will soon
come, notwithstanding the hoary reminiscences
of that Anglo-Canadian placeman, Sir Francis
Head, dating back by thirty-two years, or the
modern palliative of arbitration suggested by
Mr. Foster, Vice President of the Council of Great
Britain, which we present to-day.GOLD GOING DOWN.—There was a rather
sharp decline in gold yesterday; but as the
cliques which control the market were on the
"bear" side the fall did not hurt them. The
sufferers were the small speculators who were
tempted by the recent advance to purchase for a
still further rise. The cunning old operators
got wind of Secretary Boutwell's intention to
sell an additional million of gold, and stood
under in time.EIGHT HOURS A DAY.—The President took
a very sensible view of the Eight Hour Labor
law when he decided that it was intended to
mean ten hours' pay for eight hours' work.
If it did not mean that it was a piece of very
silly legislation and would have been no relief
whatever to the workmen in the public service.
Time is too short and labor too heavy for the
employees in the government navy yards and
other public works to throw off two hours a
day if the pittance they are paid is to be
thrown off with them.THE BELL AND THE CABLE.—Ex-Secretary
of State Seward, as the people know, used his
"little bell" in Washington with great vigor
during the early months of the war. The bell
was neglected, however, when he seized hold
of the Atlantic cable and commenced to cor-
respond with our Minister, in London, on the
Alabama claims by submarine telegraph. Sen-
ator Sumner pointed out yesterday that one
of these despatches cost forty thousand
dollars in gold. How much did the whole
series cost? The cable men want their money.
When will it be paid? Can England be made
to discharge the item? The bell was danger-
ous, but not so vastly dear.THE CARS—WHEN SHALL WE HAVE
THEM?—The Legislature passed an act incor-
porating a company to run cars in this city on
the same plan which has proved so convenient
in London and many of the principal cities in
Europe. Such a system would be an especial
convenience here, and the want of it has long
been felt. It is said that the parties who pro-
pose to put a line of cars on our streets are
prepared to commence operations as soon as the
vehicles are imported from Europe, and that all
the capital required is ready for invest-
ment. We have seen the bill go through
both houses of the Legislature and receive the
signature of the Governor. Now we want to
see the cars running on our streets. That is
the final and important point.Cuba and St. Domingo—Our Southward
March.It appears from our Washington despatch
published yesterday that the President listened
very attentively to the verbal report of ex-
Vice Consul La Reintrie—who has just re-
turned from Cuba, where he has been residing
in official station for more than two years—
frequently interrupting him and asking him
questions. In the opinion of this official the
Cubans have adopted a wise policy in not
accepting open battle in the field against well
organized and disciplined troops; and the
question of their success is merely one of the
ability of Spain constantly to reinforce her
wasting and diminishing army. In this state-
ment we do not doubt that Mr. La Reintrie
has hit the nail on the head. The interest
exhibited by the President shows that he is
fully alive to one of the most prominent and
urgent questions in American politics. Cuba
will not only be very soon applying to our
government for recognition as a State under
her newly organized republican form of gov-
ernment, but at no distant date will make
formal application for admission as a State
within our Union.It behooves our public men, and particularly
those in the government, to study these ques-
tions, and to take care that the government
does not lose the present most favorable op-
portunity to advance our national policy. The
initial question in these movements—the one
that requires immediate attention and action—is
the one opened by the offer now made by the
Dominican republic. Torn by selfish leaders
and factions for several years, St. Domingo
has found a period of rest under the rule of
President Baez. But the effort and expendi-
ture required to repress the bushwhacking
discontent of a few unscrupulous politicians
diverts the revenue of the government from
its true application in behalf of peaceful
development and maintains the public authority
in a state of constant poverty and weakness.
Enterprise and industry, wanting the natural
protection which should secure their peace,
disappear from the land; commerce decays
and society is deprived of its highest stimu-
lant to progress. President Baez has wisely sought
to strengthen the fabric of peace by a close
connection with the great republic, and his
offers should be wisely considered and acted
upon.The admission of St. Domingo as a State of
the American Union would guarantee her a
republican form of government and at the same
time relieve the Dominican people from the ex-
traordinary efforts and sacrifices they are now
compelled to make to preserve the public peace.
Nor would there be any increase of cost to
us. The presence of the American flag, sus-
tained by the moral power of our govern-
ment, would suffice to preserve the territory
from foreign aggression and domestic broils.
The arts of peace would prosper, industry and
trade revive and public and private wealth
increase. All of these advantages can be se-
cured by the simple negotiation of a treaty by
the Secretary of State with the agents of the
Dominican republic, and the whole matter can
be ratified and ready for presentation to Con-
gress on the meeting in December next.Such a treaty is not to be looked upon as a
mere attempt at petty annexation. It is, in
fact, the arrangement of the formula of our
coming southward march, and will be the proudest
monument of the administration which estab-
lishes it. With slavery the era of filibuster-
ing passed away. We have now to digest the
form of that peaceful annexation the spirit of
which is already evident in the countries
beyond our southern border. Close upon St.
Domingo will follow Cuba, Mexico (either in
portions or, perhaps, in one grand mass), and
then the rest of the States and the Isles of the
American Mediterranean, to the isthmus of
Darien. This whole field opens with a most
promising aspect to the administration of Presi-
dent Grant, and it is only the first step which
requires skill and wisdom. If this is rightly
taken, as it can easily be in the case of St.
Domingo, the succeeding ones will follow of
their own accord. The administration must
recognize the duty before it and act up to
the national spirit in this great field now
open to us.A LUCKY DOUGLASS.—Fred Douglass, Jun-
ior, son of Fred Douglass, Senior, applied to
Mr. Wolfe, Register of Deeds, in Washington,
yesterday, for a clerkship. Mr. Douglass con-
fessed he belonged to a "dispeled class," yet,
notwithstanding, had fought acceptably for the
Union as a Massachusetts soldier, adding that
he was a son of Fred Douglass—a man who
was held in bondage on account of the dif-
ference of caste—and a printer; but his trade
was rendered useless in his hands in conse-
quence of the exclusive action of the Printers'
Unions on the question of color. Mr. Wolfe
replied favorably, and Fred, Junior, is pro-
vided for. The "Black Douglass" will likely
become a rallying cry, as in Europe in the
olden time.IN A HUFF.—Mr. Sandford, United States
Minister to Belgium, has thrown up his office
in a huff, because the Senate did not confirm
his appointment in a like capacity to Madrid.
Mr. Sandford vacates a favorable position, and
the President may prepare to receive appli-
cants.

The Texas Election and the Cotton Crop.

While from Texas we receive the pleasing
assurance of General Reynolds that he can
hold the election in that State in July if the
President orders him so to do, from Wash-
ington comes the statement that General Grant
has told some peripatetic politician that no
election will be held there until November. If
this be true no more unwise resolution could
be taken by the administration. A State elec-
tion in Texas will require an agitated political
cavalcade for four, if not for six, weeks previous
to the day of voting. This would involve all
the month of October and a good portion of
September in an excitement in which the freed-
men take delight, and for which they are
willing to abandon any and every labor.Texas to-day has planted in cotton one-
third more land than ever before, and this
turmoil among the laboring class will be
created in the height of the picking season.
Such a step cannot but have a disastrous effect
in diminishing the amount of cotton gathered,
and reduce materially the gold resources of the
government and the country during the coming
season. The prospects for the coming cotton
crop of the South are sufficiently reduced
without President Grant adding his assistanceto diminish them still more. We urge upon
him, therefore, for the good of the whole
country, not to delay this important measure
beyond the period when the crop is laid by to
ripen for the harvest. Let this election be
held in July, before the harvest begins. It is
bad enough to have speculators and selfish
politicians to urge their petty interests before
those of the country, but General Grant should
not lend himself to such infamous purposes.

The Quarantine Question.

There is a good deal of noise being made
just now about the question of quarantine, but
it seems to have taken a wrong direction.
That the Health Officer, who is supposed to
have the care of the public health in his hands,
is using his position for very different pur-
poses than those which the law allots to him
or prescribes for him is a fact well known to
the whole mercantile community. In the first
place he has no legal right to become a col-
lector and vender of news. The law establish-
ing quarantine precludes all parties alike from
boarding vessels within the limits of quaran-
tine, and then landing the crews and passen-
gers of such vessel or the crew of the boat
which boards her. Without this provision
there would be no quarantine; yet this health
officer, Swinburne, or his deputies, do this
very thing continually for a pecuniary con-
sideration. The law of quarantine gives the
Health Officer no right to arrest anybody at
Staten Island, because the quarantine ground
there is abolished, except within very limited
precincts, and outside of those boundaries he
has no jurisdiction there whatever. The re-
cent action of the courts in dismissing the
parties arrested at Swinburne's instigation
proves that he is acting as much outside the
law in these matters as he is in smuggling,
under the guise of performing the duties of
Health Officer—an allegation which was so
clearly made not long ago, and backed by
such substantial proofs as would probably have
put the Health Officer in a very disagreeable
but very secure place, only for the political
and other influences brought to bear upon the
case.Now, is it not evident that if contagion is
likely to be brought to the city the quarantine
boats, whose crews and medical officer remain
on board the vessel for a length of time, who
mix among the crew and passengers of the
contagious vessel and then return to the city,
the men to roam at large among our citizens,
travelling on the crowded passenger boats
from Staten Island or landing at Whitehall
slip and Brooklyn, as it is well known they do—
is it not evident, we say, that if there is danger
of contagion it is more likely to come from
that quarter than from the new boats which
run alongside incoming vessels for a moment
to receive the package of marine news thrown
to them? Our reporters do not board the
vessels except in cases where there is no con-
tagion likely to be on board. They have as
much regard for their lives as the employees
of the Health Officer's department—perhaps
more, as they are more useful in their sphere—
and certainly they would not care to bring
contagious disease and death to the city in
their own persons. If a vessel is healthy
there certainly can be no harm done in board-
ing her for such a legitimate purpose. Restric-
tions put upon emigrant runners and
"bummers" were not intended to be applied to
newspapers, whose object is to provide the
public with the earliest shipping news from
abroad—to place upon the desk or the break-
fast table of the merchant each morning in-
telligence of the fate of his ships and cargoes,
wherever they may happen to be scattered
over the seas. This is a part of newspaper
enterprise of which the HERALD has never
been neglectful. It was one of the earliest
features in its infant history, and it is one
which to-day, when its value is fully and
substantially established, it is not going to
surrender.So far as any danger of contagion from
infected vessels being carried by ship news
reporters is concerned, that can be answered
by the fact that news has been furnished in
this way for thirty years, and yet who has
heard of a case of infection being brought to
the city through this channel? The real cause
of the fuss about the matter just now is that
other journals in the interest of the Quarantine
ring are jealous of the HERALD's enterprise,
and are governed in their opposition by a
small—very small—spirit of economy. We
offered them opportunities of obtaining ship
news at a moderate cost, while we were willing
to bear, as we now cheerfully bear, the bur-
den of the expense; but they would not ac-
cept, preferring, it appears, to use such re-
ports as the Health Officer, in violation of the
Quarantine law, might furnish them. We put
our own steamers into the service. If the
papers which are in with the Quarantine ring
were not equal to bear the expense we cannot
help it. Under these circumstances it is not
surprising that they are jealous, irritated and
unhappy. It is not less surprising that Dr.
Swinburne should like to use them for the
purpose of keeping the merchants of New York
under his control, by attempting to furnish
them ship news just when and how he
pleases, and upon his own terms,
relying upon the grip which he has upon them
to prevent any remonstrance being sent by the
merchants to the Governor against his mis-
management of quarantine, because it is evi-
dent that, if Governor Hoffman should not act
upon the charges and suspend the Health
Officer, every merchant who signed such
charges would have to brave the vengeance of
the Quarantine despot. It is quite probable,
however, that the Governor is not unwilling
to investigate any charges that may be pre-
ferred against the Health Officer; but of
course, unless the universal disgust and dis-
satisfaction with his management of Quar-
antine and the blackmailing system which can
be practised upon our merchants takes this
definite shape, the Governor has no grounds
to take any action in the matter. The sooner
some measures in this direction are taken the
better it will be for the public health and the
commercial interests of the community.CABLE TELEGRAPHY.—A duplicate line of
submarine cable has been completed between
London and Valencia, Ireland, and the two
Atlantic cables are working. At Valencia one
cable will be used exclusively for forwarding
and the other for receiving messages, so that
despatches may be transmitted almost in an
instant, it is said, between London and New
York. We hope so.

International Rivalry in the Arts.

A letter which we publish to-day concern-
ing "Art and Artists in London" contains the
following phrase, which we recommend to the
serious consideration of the "Hanging Com-
mittee" of the National Academy of Design:—
"Better bare walls than bad pictures is an ex-
cellent rule." Notwithstanding the enlarged
space at the exhibition of the Royal Academy
the rule has, it appears, been rigidly observed.
Unhappily, this has not been the case at the
present annual exhibition in the Venetian
building at the corner of Fourth Avenue and
Twenty-third street, in New York. We have
already been reluctantly constrained to say
that the forty-fourth annual exhibition of
the Academy indicates a persistent indulgence
towards mediocrity. It is always more agree-
able to praise than to censure; but this year,
as well as for more than one year past, we
have been pained to see that American art
seems to manifest decline rather than progress,
so far as we can judge by the Academy ex-
hibitions. With the exception of a few land-
scapes and one or two portraits there is
scarcely anything in the present exhibition
worthy of a second glance. Such is the
unanimous verdict of the public and the press.
One fatal consequence of the extreme leniency
of this "Hanging Committee" at our Acad-
emy—a committee which, we are glad to learn,
has been lately reduced in number from thir-
teen to three—is that artists of inferior rank
have been tempted, by the implied endorse-
ment of the admission of their works to the
Academy, to venture, in some instances, to
send them abroad, and to expose them to
decidedly odious comparisons. By their
works the condition of American art has been
subjected to a very difficult test. Had they
been previously more severely judged at home
they would have escaped, and American art,
as represented, or misrepresented, by them
would have escaped European condemnation.
Surely some of our landscapists and sculptors
have already manifested genius to a degree
that should command admiration on both sides
of the Atlantic. But neither they nor our few
figure painters should suffer any but excellent
works to be exhibited abroad. At the World's
Fair in London and at the two great Expositions
in Paris American inventive genius has been
worthily displayed and cordially recognized.<